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File Policy & Guidance

DD/S 70-1211
26 MAR 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Logistics
Chief, Building Planning Staff
Acting Chief, Support Operations Staff

SUBJECT : Headquarters Building Planning

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1. At the conference at [REDACTED] this past weekend I presented one of the conceptual designs for the future headquarters building and mentioned that it would include all overt offices with the exception of the [REDACTED]. I indicated the cost would run between \$90 million now and \$110 million in the near future. This evoked some discussion. One aspect raised would be the practical difficulties of seeking authorization from the congress and explanation of the need for such a large building, sizeable allocation of funds, and revelation of the number of facilities, people and other supporting data. It was felt that this would be a very difficult thing to do now and in the near future. In addition there was some discussion of future technological developments and possible impact of these developments upon the Agency and its scope and nature of operations. It was obvious that in the scientific and technological field the projected developments during the 1970's are such that we cannot plan at this time with any certainty as to their impact upon Agency activities. It was felt therefore that we must remain in a highly flexible posture to adapt our operations and facilities to these future developments.

2. Additionally it appears that the EOI system being developed by the Agency has proven itself to the point where it can be assumed that the program will end up as an Agency controlled and directed operation. The DD/I spoke to the impact of EOI on the NPIC and DD/I operation and the need for expansion of facilities to accommodate this impact. Additionally the DD/I raised the fact that some of the measurement systems being introduced into NPIC require a building condition that is free of vibrations, otherwise, the efficient use of this equipment will be considerably degraded. DD/I was indicating the possible need for a new location and supplemented this with the fact that the new Washington subway

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[REDACTED]

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3. In light of the above considerations, namely the magnitude and cost of a single building, the problems at [REDACTED] and the need to remain somewhat flexible in meeting future development I feel that perhaps the better plan would be a renewed look at the plan for a series of decentralized buildings at the headquarters site. The decentralized series of buildings could each be devoted to its specialized function and could be time-phased in accordance with the program needs of those activities. The chances of obtaining BOB and congressional approval for an incremental development of smaller but specialized structures in conformance to a master plan predicated on a number of years development would have a much greater appeal and chances of appropriate approval.

4. Accordingly I asked that the Building Planning Staff consider these factors with a view to the possible need for an early construction program embracing a combined NPIC and EOI facility. After you have had an opportunity to consider this please set up a meeting for consideration of our options and alternatives.

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[REDACTED]

R. L. Balmertman
Deputy Director
for Support

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